



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Stewardship Program
2012 Ranking Period 1

WQL10 – Delaware Supplement– REVISED 1/27/12

Plant a Cover Crop That Will Scavenge Residual Nitrogen – (Water Quality Enhancement Activity)

Delaware Clarification

Cover crops cannot be harvested. No fall application of commercial fertilizers (N and P) or manure is allowed prior to planting the cover crop. No winter application of commercial fertilizer or manure is allowed. Spring application of manure can resume after March 1st in Sussex County and March 15th in Kent and New Castle Counties. Cover crops cannot be destroyed until after March 15th. If spring peas are to be planted, termination date and fertilization date is March 1st.

Delaware Specifications

Suitable cover crops for this enhancement are listed below and are rated at least “Very Good” for scavenging nitrogen as documented in “**Managing Cover Crops Profitably, 3rd Edition**” (Sarrantonio, 1998), Chart 2 Performance & Roles, pg 67. Timing of planting and seeding rates for cover crops are listed below and shall follow the recommendations in the Delaware NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

Species	Seeding Rate (lbs/ac) ^{1/}	Seeding Depth (inches) ^{2/}	Planting dates based on PHZ 6b	Planting dates based on PHZ 7A- 7b	Kill /Suppression Dates
WINTER ANNUAL GRASSES					
Annual Ryegrass <i>Lolium perenne</i> spp. <i>multiflorum</i>	20 (15-50)	0.25 - 0.5	9/1 – 10/1	9/1 – 10/20	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop.
Spring Oats <i>Avena sativa</i>	95 (60-125)	1.0 - 1.5	9/1 – 10/1	8/1 – 9/15	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop. Spring Oats may winter kill
Winter Barley <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	120 (90-150)	1.0 - 1.5	9/1 – 10/1	9/1 – 10/15	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop.
Winter (Cereal) Rye <i>Secale cereale</i>	120 (90-150)	1.0 - 1.5	9/1 – 10/1	9/1 – 10/20	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop.
Winter Wheat <i>Triticum aestivum</i>	120 (90-150)	1.0 - 1.5	9/1 – 10/1	9/1 – 10/15	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop.
Triticale <i>Triticum X Secale</i>	105 (90-120)	1.0 – 1.5	9/1 – 10/1	9/1 – 10/1	No later than 2 to 4 weeks before planting the next crop.

Species	Seeding Rate (lbs/ac) ^{1/}	Seeding Depth (inches) ^{2/}	Planting dates based on PHZ 6b	Planting dates based on PHZ 7A- 7b	Kill /Suppression Dates
SUMMER ANNUAL					
Sorghum X Sudangrass <i>Sorghum bicolor</i>	30 (20-40)	0.5 - 1.0	5/15 –7/1	5/1 – 6/20	
WINTER ANNUAL BRASSICAS					
Winter Rape (or Canola) <i>Brassica napus</i>	8 (5-12)	0.25 - 0.5	8/1 – 10/15	9/1 – 10/15	Kill prior to seed heads maturing.
Forage/Oilseed Radish <i>Raphanus sativus</i> var. <i>longipinnatus</i>	12 (8-14)	0.25	8/1 - 9/15	8/1 - 9/15	May be planted up to an inch during dry conditions. Good to break up hard pans.

¹When broadcast seeding without cultipacking, planting later than the ideal period, or planting in a rough seedbed, use the high end of the recommended seeding rate. If aerial seeding, increase the seeding rate by 50%.

²Provides the recommended depth to plant seed to obtain the best germination. Plant deeper in sandy soil, and less deep on clayey soil.

Incompatible Enhancements

This enhancement may not be contracted with the following enhancements:
AIR08, ANM31, ANM12, ANM21, SQL03, SQL04, SQL09

Eligible Land

Cropland

Applicable Amount

Acres of annually cropped lands only.

Example (System)

The applicable acres are any cropland acreage. If a participant has 2500 acres of cropland and he/she was willing to incorporate a nitrogen scavenging cover crop into half of the cropland acres, the applicable acres would be 2500 acres and the applied acres would be 1250 (250 acres annually, commencing in Year 1). The Toolkit plan would look like the following:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
WQL10	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250

Documentation Requirements

Documentation for each treatment area (field) and year of this enhancement describing these items:

1. A map showing where the activities are applied
2. Cover crop species planted
3. Cover crop planting date
4. Cover crop seeding rate (bu/ac)
5. Annual crop planted
6. Nitrogen application rates/amounts for the annual crop
7. Treatment acres

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all that is required for the implementation of this CSP Enhancement Activity.

Contract participant

Date